

Technical Bulletin for N.C. General Stormwater Permit NCG200000

Division of Energy, Mineral, and Land Resources

Technical Bulletin for NCG200000

Last Revised 1/28/2015

What activities are covered by this general permit?

NCG200000 authorizes industrial stormwater discharges associated with establishments primarily engaged in **Scrap Metal Recycling** [a portion of standard industrial classification (SIC) 5093]; and like activities deemed by DEMLR to be similar in the process or the in the exposure of raw materials, final products, by-products, or waste materials.

What are the key permit requirements?

- Develop and implement a written Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SPPP) (Part II, Section A).
- Provide secondary containment for all bulk storage of liquid materials (Part II, Section A, 2.(b)).
- Perform, document, and report analytical monitoring during a measureable storm event twice each year. At the same time perform and document visual monitoring twice each year. (Part II, Sections B & C).
- Respond to benchmark exceedances of the monitoring parameters as described in the Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3 response action provisions in the permit text.

What has changed since the last renewal?

Some of the changes since the last renewal include:

- ***Twice-per-year monitoring of pH is no longer required.***
- Refinements and minor clarifications to the SPPP requirements; refer to Part II, Section A.
- The permittee should find it easier to sample during a *measureable storm event* (new term this revision), rather than a *representative storm event* (old term, previous permit.)
- DEMLR is referenced throughout as the permitting authority, rather than the now defunct DWQ.
- The permit has new provisions for e-reporting, once our agency's capabilities for e-reporting are established.
- ***A lower TSS benchmark of 50 mg/L for stormwater discharges into especially protected waters.***

What are BMPs, and why are they important?

Your SPPP should identify **Best Management Practices (BMPs)** to reduce the discharge of pollutants from your stormwater outfalls. BMPs include practices and features that reduce the potential for pollutants to get into the stormwater draining from a facility. BMPs may be categorized as *non-structural* or *structural*:

Non-structural (practices or activities) BMPs include:

- * Eliminating exposure of materials and equipment wherever possible by moving them to indoor locations.
- * Practicing good housekeeping on site.
- * Handling and storing materials at the facility in an orderly fashion.
- * Replacing hazardous materials with non-hazardous ones wherever possible.
- * Establishing routine leak & maintenance checks to minimize chance of spills. Clean up spills immediately.
- * Establishing bulk storage tank protocols that minimize the risk of spills during loading and unloading.

Structural (equipment or devices) BMPs include:

- * Containment dikes around the loading areas of bulk liquid storage containers.
- * Roofs and secondary containment around materials stored outside so that stormwater cannot contact them.
- * Well-vegetated borders or buffers around pavement, buildings, and operating areas.

Frequently Asked Questions

Could I be exempted from an NPDES stormwater permit?

Possibly. A facility subject to the NPDES stormwater regulations that eliminates all potential stormwater exposure may be eligible for a No Exposure Exclusion from a permit. The facility must self-recertify annually that it still fully meets the qualifications of no exposure. Application forms for this exclusion are available on our website shown below.

What if I sell my business, or the name changes?

You are required to notify DEMLR of those changes, and our specific continuation of permit coverage is subject to the Director's approval. Please submit the Name/Ownership Change form located on our Program website.

Do I have to monitor all the outfalls?

Yes. However, you may request Representative Outfall Status (ROS). If approved, this status allows analytical monitoring at fewer outfalls. To request ROS, submit our ROS Request Form to the DEMLR Regional Office. The form is available on our website (see below).

Does a certified lab need to analyze my samples?

Monitoring under NPDES permits must be conducted in accordance with test procedures approved in federal regulations in 40 CFR §136. All labs certified by North Carolina perform analysis in accordance with those procedures. While N.C. certification requirements do not apply to testing stormwater-only discharges, data gathered under an NPDES permit must still conform to federal requirements. Using a North Carolina certified lab is one way to ensure compliance. A list of certified labs is available from: <http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/wq/lab/cert/>

Who inspects my site, and for what?

DEMLR regional office staff may visit the site to see if you have the permit, an acceptable SPPP, and that you are following your SPPP. These inspections may be routine or they may be the result of public complaints. *Please take compliance seriously!* Facilities that violate stormwater permit conditions may be subject to fines. Civil penalties of **up to \$25,000 per day** may be assessed for each violation.

What happens if when I pull samples for my semi-annual analytical monitoring I'm unable to get a sample for one of the parameters?

If this happens please sample for the missing parameter during the next measureable storm event.

If I'm sampling my discharge, do I do qualitative monitoring at the same time?

Yes.

What Do I Do When My Stormwater Permit Expires?

In the State of North Carolina, the Stormwater General Permit is in force and effect, and covered facilities are allowed to continue discharging under the permit, until the general permit is reissued or a new general permit is issued.

Other resources

In addition to the DEMLR Stormwater Permitting Program's website below, the DEACS (Division of Environmental Assistance and Customer Service) is a valuable resource. The DEACS has specific information about how to minimize pollutants at various industries. Call (877) 623-6748 or visit: <http://ncenvironmentalassistance.org/>

Who can help me with questions?

Your questions about stormwater permit requirements can be addressed to the DEMLR Offices:

Asheville Office.....	(828) 296-4500	Washington Office.....	(252) 946-6481
Fayetteville Office.....	(910) 433-3300	Wilmington Office.....	(910) 796-7215
Mooresville Office.....	(704) 663-1699	Winston-Salem Office....	(336) 771-5000
Raleigh Office.....	(919) 791-4200	Central Office.....	(919) 707-9220



Helpful Link:

DEMLR Stormwater Permitting Program:
<http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/lr/stormwater>